From: Dan Rozinsky
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 11:12am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

To whom it may concern:

I feel that the settlement reached in the Microsoft anti-trust lawsuit does
not address the true issue. Microsoft seems to be punished for their
behavior, in a limited sort of way, while avoiding the creation of a
competitive marketplace.

For this lawsuit to be truly successful in breaking the Microsoft monopoly
it must insure that competitive and compatible operating systems be allowed
to exist. At this time microsoft is taking legal action against
lindows.com, a project which aims to create a compatible, competitive
operating system to windows.

The steps I would recommend are as follows.
1)Take direct and immediate action to protect Lindows, WINE and other
windows emulators from Microsoft lawsuits and interference.

2)Force Microsoft (and ANY Operating Systems manufacturer) to make the
complete specifications of their operating systems available so competing
projects can create compatible and competitive products in the future. This
does not mean that source code must be released. That is copywriteable and
can be confidetial. What is important is to realese the details of WHAT the
OS does, not HOW the code does it.

3)Prohibit ANY Operating Systems manufacturer from producing brand specific
softwarwe. IE: if it runs on Microsoft Windows, it should also run on
Lindows, WINE, or any other OS built to the Microsoft Standard.

The final consideration is where to draw the line between Operating System
and application. It seems to me to be a bad idea to prevent the
manufacturer from packaging applications (word processors, web browsers,
games, etc) with the operating system. This is one method of offering the
consumer added value. Quality of support would be another. It comes down
to this: No Operating System developer can be allowed to keep the
specification of any part, module, or element of their OS secret. No
operating system manufacturer can be allowed to inseperably integrate the
Operating Sytem with the Application. The Operating System will be known as
the code which controls the computer's hardware, volatile memory,
non-volatile memory, inputs, outputs, and provides a code interface for the
development of applications.

If these rules are implemented MOST of Microsoft's product would be legal,
requiring only small adjustments and some release of documentation.
Elements of windows, such as the graphical interface, Internet Explorer,

Wordpad, notrepad, Paint, the phone dialer, would be protected as
Microsoft's property, available only in Microsoft products. However,
Internet Explorer would be removable and replaceable. The Office suite of
products would be available to run on any competing OS. The Windows GUI
could be replaced by competing products.

Perhaps a fourth and final consideration, that no software be available
exclusively with the operating system should be considered.

As I read your decision I see that some of this has been addressed, though
the OS market does not seem to be opened to competition. Please reconsider
this.

Yours in competitive practices,

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